

USSN: 10/070,037
Group No. 3677
Examiner: Mitchell Katherine W.
Page 2

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
OCT 14 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, all listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. – 142. (canceled)

143. (Currently Amended)

A method for constructing a decorative jewelry item, comprising:

providing a base member having a hollow interior, a top with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom;

providing a decorative insert smaller than said opening, said decorative insert for being inserted, through said opening, into said hollow interior and positioned entirely below said top, said decorative insert comprising a plate-shaped top and a rear projecting pin;

providing a support member fixed to the interior of said base member, said support member provided with a hole therethrough for receiving said pin;

placing said decorative insert into said hollow base member through said top opening and entirely positioned below said top, whereby said decorative insert is viewable through said top opening; and

after placing said decorative insert, fixing said decorative insert to said support member within said base member, said fixing said decorative insert including fixing said pin to said support member by a process selected from the group consisting of applying an adhesive, soldering, welding including laser welding, molecular bonding, swaging, bending, and clamping, wherein:

USSN: 10/070,037

Group No. 3677

Examiner: Mitchell Katherine W.

Page 3

~~The method as claimed in Claim 142, wherein:~~

said provided base member is segmented and has a multiple segmented hollow interior, a top with a multiple segmented opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom;

said provided decorative insert is a multiple segmented decorative insert configured and sized in relation to said multiple segmented top opening to be inserted, through said multiple segmented top opening, into said hollow interior and positioned below said top; and

said fixing said decorative insert comprises inserting said multiple segmented decorative insert within said hollow interior with each segment of said multiple segmented decorative insert viewable through said top opening.

144. (Previously Presented)

The method as claimed in Claim 143, wherein:

said multiple segmented decorative insert has a plurality of said rear projecting pins, one of said pins located adjacent opposite edges of said multiple segmented decorative insert, such that at least one segment of said multiple segmented decorative insert does not have a rear projecting pin;

said segmented base member has a plurality of insert support members fixed to said base member interior for receiving corresponding ones of said plurality of rear projecting pins; and

said fixing said decorative insert comprises fixing each pin to its corresponding insert support member.

145. – 147. (Canceled)

* * *